

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Serv., Interior

## § 23.2

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**AUTHORITY:** Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (March 3, 1973), 27 U.S.T. 1087; and Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

**SOURCE:** 72 FR 48448, Aug. 23, 2007, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—Introduction

#### § 23.1 What are the purposes of these regulations and CITES?

(a) *Treaty.* The regulations in this part implement the Convention on

International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, also known as CITES, the Convention, the Treaty, or the Washington Convention, TIAS (Treaties and Other International Acts Series) 8249.

(b) *Purpose.* The aim of CITES is to regulate international trade in wildlife and plants, including parts, products, and derivatives, to ensure it is legal and does not threaten the survival of species in the wild. Parties, recognize that:

(1) Wildlife and plants are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the earth and must be protected for this and future generations.

(2) The value of wildlife and plants is ever-growing from the viewpoints of aesthetics, science, culture, recreation, and economics.

(3) Although countries should be the best protectors of their own wildlife and plants, international cooperation is essential to protect wildlife and plant species from over-exploitation through international trade.

(4) It is urgent that countries take appropriate measures to prevent illegal trade and ensure that any use of wildlife and plants is sustainable.

(c) *National legislation.* We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), implement CITES through the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

#### § 23.2 How do I decide if these regulations apply to my shipment or me?

Answer the following questions to decide if the regulations in this part apply to your proposed activity:

Question on proposed activity	Answer and action
(a) Is the wildlife or plant species (including parts, products, derivatives, whether wild-collected, or born or propagated in a controlled environment) listed in Appendix I, II, or III of CITES (see § 23.91)?	(1) <b>YES.</b> Continue to paragraph (b) of this section. (2) <b>NO.</b> The regulations in this part do not apply.
(b) Is the wildlife or plant specimen exempted from CITES (see § 23.92)?	(1) <b>YES.</b> The regulations in this part do not apply. (2) <b>NO.</b> Continue to paragraph (c) of this section.
(c) Do you want to import, export, re-export, engage in international trade, or introduce from the sea?	(1) <b>YES.</b> The regulations in this part apply. (2) <b>NO.</b> Continue to paragraph (d) of this section.
(d) Was the specimen that you possess or want to enter into intrastate or interstate commerce unlawfully acquired, illegally traded, or otherwise subject to conditions set out on a CITES document that authorized import?	(1) <b>YES.</b> The regulations in this part apply. See § 23.13(c) and (d) and sections 9(c)(1) and 11(a) and (b) of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1538(c)(1) and 1540(a) and (b)). (2) <b>NO.</b> The regulations in this part do not apply.